

## Lexington Advertiser

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### A NEW YEAR.

A New Year is with us. The last page in the old book has been turned and a bright new, clean book is before all of us to write in as we may. What will be inscribed on those pages as to our own lives and the history of our nation and the world.

In the strict sense of the word the last day of the old year and the first day of the new will be alike, inasmuch as our daily routine is concerned. But in another way of thinking, there is all the difference in the world. The advent of the new year brings about the opportunity to take a new hold on ourselves—to begin anew in the things that should be changed.

The year that has just passed has been a trying one for all, but still it has had its good effects. Everyone has had to retrench in their living habits, in their spending and their various viewpoints on life. Still, things that we thought so important don't loom up nearly so much as they once did. If you take away a man's soft bed, he will learn in time to sleep as soundly on spruce boughs. And bacon and eggs have the same inviting savor on a tin plate as they had on costly china.

We have found again the friendliness of the fireside. We have come to know our neighbors. We cherish people just for the joy that is in their presence. We have forgotten the spirit that prevailed a few years ago when only the pursuit of the dollar counted. We have come closer to the soil that bred us and to the rugged Americanism that our fathers knew.

So we have gained a lot in the things that really count, though we may have lost in the material ways. That gain is what we want to cherish and perpetuate during the coming new year. If we retain it we have been made stronger and more noble.

If we have the courage and strength we can make the new year what we will. True we have new standards by which to measure our success but we also have new standards of the ultimate goal. If we have the confidence we need it to be. Now is the time to start. Don't procrastinate for this is a time for action.

People who are all wrapped up in package, usually make a mighty small package.

Folks who worry over the little things never have time to accomplish the big ones.

### PROTECTIVE MEASURES.

The gun-toter that made his threat in the House of Representative the other day should prove an object lesson to that governing body.

They are already considering protective measures for that body but they should go farther in their efforts, realizing that the threat was brought home to them is not only a chance happening but that it is a nation-wide menace, and make their legislation accordingly.

Why should there be unlawful gun-toters in the most civilized and peaceful country in the world? There is no possible excuse for the indifference that makes possible such demonstrations as that which made the members of the House of Representatives scurry for cover.

Our national law-makers should give early and serious thought to the great need of protecting all Americans against the threat of the gun-toter. A federal law with teeth in it and properly enforced would rid the country of such culprits in due time. It is altogether possible to rid the country of racketeers, gangsters and other hoodlums if proper measures are put into effect. It would mean the saving of thousands of lives and a speedy reduction of all sorts of crimes and violence.

Pedestrians may have the law on their side, but they generally get hit from behind.

Horse sense seems to have disappeared from the highways along with the horses.

### OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS.

It is a commendable deed to help feed the birds during cold weather, especially when snow covers the ground. The wild feathered life is a friend of man, and he would be unappreciative indeed if he permitted birds to die from lack of food, when only a little time and effort would save their lives.

The birds that stay north all winter can withstand most any degree of cold, but when their food is suddenly cut off by a blanket of snow they of course suffer accordingly.

A few handfuls of grain scattered about each day, or even scraps from the kitchen will serve the purpose. A piece of suet is also fine for them if tied down or placed under a wire mesh to prevent animals from carrying it off. The birds also should have grit to help them digest their food, a small pile of gravel is excellent.

The birds will soon learn who are their friends and come to get the food that is placed for them each day. Few if any, living things are so useful and interesting to civilized man as are the birds. Their importance should not be underestimated. Don't let them starve this winter through thoughtlessness. It will take only a bit of time and effort to help feed them.

Good looks and good manners should be twins but sad to say they hardly ever are.

It is not very often that you see a bad man who is a good whistler.

### THE ROAD TO RECOVERY.

There is increasing evidence that the low points of business performance and security prices were reached last summer and that progress from now on, while slow and hesitant at times, will be upward.

There is an interesting analogy between present conditions and those prevailing at the time of the last comparable big depression of the middle nineties. At that time, business activity reached its low in August, 1896, about three years after the downturn began. July 1932 marks about the same interval between the beginning of the present depression and its low point, since it is now evident that business activity began to definitely slacken in the summer of 1929.

Legalization of beer is looked to by those that advocate it as a big stimulant to business in more ways than one. It is estimated that it will call for the manufacture and sale annually of about 72,000,000 barrels of beer and the consumption of about 97,100,000 bushels of grain and many other products that will play a part in its manufacture, to say nothing of putting many men to work and prove a big source of income to the federal treasury.

Be it as it may, if we are going to have beer, it is hoped that it will prove profitable and helpful in every way possible. If it helps business, then more power to it!

Of course, we seem to be marking time at the present so far as business is concerned but that is hopeful. While we are marking time we are not slipping backward as we have been doing for the past two or three years. It seems that at present that more confidence and less timidity will help more than anything.

Success does not always come to him who waits because there is always a hustler that is ready to step in and take it all.

Strange as it is the things that you want most usually cost more than you have the money to buy.

### INFLUENCE OF THE SUPREME COURT.

Strictly speaking, the Supreme Court does not legislate. The making of statutes remains the task of Congress and the state legislatures, yet in a very definite way, the nation's highest judiciary has become a growing influence in framing public opinion.

Originally, the bulk of questions referred to it concerned issues between individuals. As late as 1875, less than one-tenth of the cases dealt with issues of taxation, constitutionality and other aspects of public law. Then there was a change. The coming of 1925 saw practically one-half of the appeals related to the supervision of economic enterprise, adjustments among the states, revenue methods and similar problems.

In that year Congress released the Court altogether from the work of considering cases of ordinary statutory and common law proceedings. Now the duties of the Supreme Court are limited to those of interpreting the Constitution, either directly or indirectly, in the rulings handed down.

Most cases involve the powers of administrative agencies, and in determining their scope, the court necessarily becomes a policy making body. Consequently it sways governmental operations to a notable extent.

Many of the words in the Constitution, such as "liberty," "property," "due process of law," and "regulate commerce," are flexible in their meaning. When the nine justices apply the words to contemporary undertakings they often have to do more than read the Constitution with technical skill—they also must read life.

This aspect of their pronouncements makes their responsibility as heavy as their authority is great, since their opinions are final, subject to no appeal and unchangeable except by the Supreme Court itself in subsequent pronouncements.

People who give the world the best they have generally get back the best the world has to offer them.

Honestly is a great asset but some folks seem to get along fairly well without it.

### GUARD AGAINST FLU AND GRIPPE.

There has been a wide-spread epidemic of influenza and old-fashioned grippie in many sections so far this winter. There have been few fatalities but much inconvenience and suffering has resulted.

There are some simple rules which anyone can easily follow which will help to guard against being overtaken by these common winter ailments.

First, avoid so far as possible the places where germs are most likely to be spread, such as public meeting places, overheated and stuffy rooms, and places where sickness already prevails.

Be careful of close contact with others and beware of all coughers and sneezers. Breathe through your nose, get fresh air, but avoid drafts or chilling.

Get lots of rest. Drink plenty of water, and keep the bowels active. Take extra precaution to keep in good physical condition, so your system will have normal resistance against germs.

Try, particularly, to avoid catching cold. Colds lower your resistance to disease germs.

But if you do have the least reason to suspect that an attack of flu or grippie is coming upon you, call your doctor at once.

The new, small paper money that we now have has not only proven its lasting popularity with the public in many ways but it has also decreased counterfeiting in paper money. They safeguard against counterfeiting because each denomination has its own exclusive portrait which the public has come to know. The portrait which appears on a five dollar bill appears on no other and so on. Most counterfeiting in the past was accomplished by raising the figures on the bills but it is now so difficult to escape detection that it has become almost impossible. A few cases have been reported but they were distinct failures for the culprits had passed only a very few before they were detected in each instance.

## Cong. Rankin's Bill Will Aid Commodities

Much favorable comment is heard locally among business men and farmers, relative to a bill introduced by Representative John E. Rankin in the House of Representatives at Washington, to expand the currency in a bill to regulate the value of money, to stabilize its purchasing power by the controlled expansion and contraction of currency.

Quoting in part Congressman Rankin has the following to say: "We are in a money panic. The dollar is too high and commodity prices are too low. In fact, some of them have declined almost to the vanishing point. The papers tell us that the large banks of the country are loaded down with cash. The Treasury Department tells us that an issue of one-year Treasury Certificates or bonds, bearing only three-fourth of one per cent interest, was recently offered and was over-subscribed sixteen times; \$250,000,000 of the one-year 3/4 per cent certificates received subscriptions exceeding \$4,128,000.00.

"While the large banks are hoarding money, and the bondholders are demanding their pound of flesh, they are both opposing any expansion of the currency that would relieve the American people from this terrible depression. This is the greatest question before the American people today, and I for one, expect to continue this fight until we get relief.

"Our domestic trade is stagnant, our foreign commerce is paralyzed, our factories are closed, our mines are shut down, and ten million idle men and women, who are willing, able and anxious to work, are out of employment. Our land is teeming with abundance with more cotton, more wheat, more corn, more of almost everything necessary to sustain human life and contribute to human comforts that was ever known before in all history. Farmers are forced to sell their crops below the cost of production, corn for one-fourth less than its normal value, cotton for less than one-third, wheat at the lowest price level it has reached in five hundred years.

"The Democratic platform of 1932 pledges the party to 'the enactment of every constitutional measure that will aid the farmers to receive for their basic farm commodities in excess of cost.'

"The depression was brought about, and is now being prolonged by a contraction in the currency, resulting in a violent contraction of credits which slowed almost to a standstill the circulation of the currency we now have, instilled fear into our people, encouraged the hoarding of money and drove commodity prices to their present ruinous low levels.

"A reasonable, limited, controlled expansion of the currency is necessary in order to break this panic or relieve this depression, raise commodity prices, restore the purchasing power of our farmers, start our factories, melt our bread lines, relieve unemployment, stimulate transportation, discourage hoarding, expand credits, restore price levels and bring prosperity back to the American people.

"The dollar's purchasing power as now ascertained by the Department of Labor and measured in terms of industrial commodities, stands at 156, the inverse ratio of the General Commodity Index stands at 56 per centum above the average of the years 1921 to 1929, inclusive, indicating a fall in those commodities to 64 per centum, which fall is still continuing to lower levels.

"We have sufficient amount of gold in the Treasury to supply the necessary reserve required by the Federal Reserve Act, to enable us to expand the currency sufficiently to relieve these distressed conditions without any way endangering the gold standard, impairing the soundness or effecting the integrity of our national currency."

## Cotton Overproduction Control Is Advocated

Definite control of cotton acreage and production, seeking the oblation of future overproduction such as has proven so disastrous in the past, seem nearer actuality now than at any other time, in the opinion of J. C. Holton, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The conference of Governors of Southern States, held in Memphis Thursday, was unanimous in the agreement that there could be and must be regulation by states producing the bulk of the cotton, so that cotton production might be held within due bounds. A new scheme of regulation offered by Dr. Tait Butler, chairman of the steering committee, would provide such regulation through allotment of the desired number of bales to gins and preventing violation by asking severe penalties upon any which might gin in excess of its allotment.

Realizing that actual results are finally dependent in large measure upon executive cooperation, Governor Sennett Conner was requested by the conference to remain in contact with all Southern Governors to the end that minor differences as to details might be adjusted and that the definite plan finally agreed upon be submitted by all governors of cotton producing states to immediate sessions of legislatures.

Confident with the effort towards state regulation is the progress of proposed federal legislation, which, if enacted by Congress, would necessitate that financial benefits intended for farmers and acquired through excise levies upon the domestic mill consumption of major agricultural commodities, be conditioned upon faithful execution by participating farmers of voluntary agreements to reduce acreage.

"While America is drowned in a sea of overproduction, countries throughout the world are courageously meeting the identical issue by effective production control—including the positive regulation of sugar production in Cuba, Java, Germany and other countries; of coffee production in Brazil, and of cotton production in Egypt.

"It is unthinkable that we should continue this mad cycle of overproduction that has so nearly destroyed us. Whether regulation comes through state effort or through federal effort seems immaterial. The thing of major importance is that we maintain production at a point sufficiently beneath consumptive demand to permit the excessive carryover to be gradually absorbed, so that prices may resume normalcy."

## WASHINGTON SNAPSHOTS

The Helm News Service Taken By

In struggling with the problem of trying to raise the price level of commodities, particularly farm products, and the problem of giving the country some relief from its load of debts, members of the Senate again are talking about currency inflation. Ever since the depression started small groups in the Senate have advocated cheapening the dollar and a large number of proposals embodied in bills have been introduced ranging from the Brookhart proposal to abandon the gold standard and the proposals of the free-coinage of silver bloc to the more conservative bond-secured currency schemes.

In a mild way the Senate initiated currency inflation last summer when it approved, the House concurring, the Glass-Bohr plan for extension of the circulation privilege for national banks. In many quarters this action is regarded as failing in its purpose—which was to cheapen money and raise commodity prices. The movement for currency inflation, however, appears to be growing and senators who a year ago would not give serious thought to such a proposition privately say they have become convinced that legislation of that kind will have to be passed by Congress within a short time.

The responsibility for balancing the Federal budget is on the doorstep of President-elect Roosevelt as a result of his criticism of the sales tax proposal recommended by President Hoover just as it was beginning to take hold in the Democratic leadership of the House. While Speaker John N. Garner and other Democratic chieftains continue to insist that the budget must be balanced, and proceeded with their search of other means to that end, it was clear that they were at a loss to know how it could be done and would do nothing definite about it until the Speaker has had his talk with Mr. Roosevelt.

House leaders appear to be groping in the dark in their search for new revenue and a balanced budget following President-elect Roosevelt's throw-down on the general sales-tax proposition. Never very enthusiastic about the sales levy, and always doubtful that it could be enacted, the leaders nevertheless had come to look upon it as a possible way out of the national deficit and had agreed to give it one more review. Governor Roosevelt's disapproval of such a course appeared to have closed that door, at least as far as the short session is concerned, and it was clear that some other tack would have to be tried. What that would be, none ventured to say.

The domestic allotment program for farm relief, second of the major measures which President-elect Roosevelt wishes to have enacted at this session to avert a special session, will be completed by the House Agriculture Committee for introduction by Jan. 6. The committee, of which Representative Jones of Texas is chairman, has been working during the holidays. While the draft of the bill has not been made, the principles have been agreed upon by the dominant members of the committee in consultation with representatives of the farm organizations.

Some bridging of the gap between President Hoover and President-elect Roosevelt over the conduct of foreign policies in the period until March 4 was reflected in the sailing from New York of Edmund E. Day and John H. Williams, the American members of the preparatory committee of experts for the world monetary and economic conference. The committee will meet in Geneva, Jan. 9 and will continue the work begun in October of drafting the agenda for the conference, which now is expected to meet some time next summer in London.

That President Hoover is disposed to wash his hands of international problems as well as domestic issues and place full responsibility for both upon the shoulders of his successor is a matter of firm belief in all quarters here. That he had lost practically all interest—certainly all fighting interest—in the activities and results of the current session of Congress was made plain before the session was a week old. The very perfunctory character of his general message to that body was the first convincing evidence of his indifference.

Republican leaders today made a concerted counter attack upon recent Democratic alibis which have sought to fix responsibility upon the Republicans for the extra session of Congress, which both sides now regard as all but inevitable. Representatives Snell, of New York, Republican floor leader, and Treadway, Republican, of Massachusetts, came back at the statement made by Senator Robinson of Arkansas, Democratic floor leader, in which Robinson accused the Republicans of blocking legislation with the objective of forcing an extra session. In statements al-

## Agt. Williams Offers Cotton Baleage Control

A cotton conference was held in Memphis during the holidays to inaugurate some method or plans towards curtailment of production and other programs that will tend to boost the price of the South's main crop. Many suggestions were offered, and some feasible proposition is hoped to be the outgrowth through the Southland, that will aid the distressed farmers who are not receiving costs of production.

Governor Sennett Conner was largely instrumental in the call that convened governors or their representatives at the meeting. County Agent T. M. Williams of this city, addressed a letter setting forth a splendid plan relative to cotton production that was as follows: "In connection with your Cotton Conference I submit the following plan for your consideration.

### COTTON BALEAGE CONTROL

"Assume that our average cotton production for the past five years is 15,000,000 bales and that in 1932 we should produce 50% of this amount. To accomplish this, require each farmer to furnish the chancery clerk an affidavit of his average yearly production for the past five years. Upon receipt of this affidavit the clerk will reduce this sum by one half and stamp this amount upon a booklet, which has a serial number, write the name of the farmer in the booklet and keep a record of his allotment along with the affidavit.

"The ginners will be furnished a record of those allotments and the serial number of each farmer's booklet. Each farmer will then be required to present his booklet to the ginner for inspection and his, the ginner's, signature along with the weight of the bale of cotton ginned, and date and the gin number buyer. He will be given a record of these serial numbers and will be required to show in the farmer's booklet the date he made the purchase of the cotton, along with the weight and gin number, or warehouse number, and keep a record in his office, similar to the ginners, of the transaction.

"This booklet will show at all times, to any ginner, the actual allotment and number of bales ginned on the allotment. The buyer will have a similar record in the farmer's booklet. With this plan the farmer may gin his cotton or sell it to whomever he chooses. "Should the ginner gin more cotton for the farmer than his allotment allowed, tax the ginner on this extra cotton so heavily that he can not afford to follow this practice. Likewise with the buyer.

"The advantages of this baleage control plan over an acreage plan is in the accuracy of the check up. The machinery for this exist already in the man who gathers the ginners reports. One other man is all that would be required to check an entire county. This man to check the buyers records. "I am not familiar with the legal end of this so I do not discuss it, but the practical side of this baleage control seems to me very logical."

most identical Snell and Treadway pointed out that the Democrats had complete control of the House and actual control of the Senate, with their insurgent allies, and hence were responsible for whatever Congress might or might not do during the present short session.

A Senate judiciary subcommittee was designated to begin hearings January 5 on a Federal statute designed to apply the five-day week and six-hour day to industry. Despite serious doubts as to the constitutionality of such legislation, several senators expressed eagerness to look into its possibilities. The basis of the subcommittee's hearings, which will be concerned first with the benefits of such an innovation and second with its constitutional aspects, will be a joint resolution introduced Dec. 21 by Senator Black, Democrat, of Alabama.

Brewers of the 3.2 per cent beer which Congress apparently is willing the country have some time soon will not be able to become a class of profiteers, if Senator Borah has his way. Although he is opposed to the beer bill and believes it would be unconstitutional, Senator Borah said he was working on an amendment to the measure which would tax the excess profits of brewers. He has not yet decided on the rate of taxation, but he expressed the view that the Treasury should participate in any large profits accruing to the beer makers.

Supporters of the bill granting independence to the Philippine Islands are making plans for an attempt to pass it over the veto of President Hoover in case the President seeks to block the legislation. The conference report on the Philippine bill has been adopted by the Senate and soon will be acted on by the House.

It is said many merchants in South Carolina, obligingly break open a package of cigarettes and sell them at one cent each to customers who find it necessary to buy their smokes in small

## MIRRORS OF MISSISSIPPI

BY EDGAR S. WILSON

Jackson, Miss., Jan. 4.—A student of Mississippi history says that in common with other Mississippians, he would like to know something definite about Governor General Chittocque Brandon, for whom the town of Brandon, Rankin County, Mississippi, is named. Historians state that Brandon, who succeeded to the governorship upon the death of Governor Leake, was born near Selma Plantation, nine miles from Natchez District. This was under Spanish history. His father, General Brandon, was a native of County Donegal, Ireland and moved to Natchez in 1782. He was the recipient of land grants from Spanish authorities in what are now Adams and Wilkinson Counties.

Among other positions of honor, Brandon was elected to the General Assembly of the Mississippi Territory in 1815. He was a member of the constitutional convention of 1817, being a member from Wilkinson County and was lieutenant-governor during the administrations of Governor Holmes and Leake, and governor al interim to fill out the unexpired terms of both. In 1827 he defeated David Williams and Beverly R. Grayson for governor. He was elected governor a second time over George Winchester in 1829.

At the close of his second term he was solicited to become a candidate for the office of United States Senator, but declined. The last official position held by Governor Brandon was that of a member of the constitutional convention of 1832. He resigned as a member of that body before its close for the reason that he was opposed to the election of judges by the people. A. J. McLaurin of Rankin County was elected both governor and United States Senator, being the only native Mississippian ever elected to both these positions.

In addition to the other constitutional requisites to be a qualified elector, one must have paid all taxes on or before February 1, 1933, and must register four months prior to the general election. Aliens are not permitted under the law to register, or to vote in any primary, special or general election in Mississippi.

The law provides that "any person who shall knowingly procure his registration as a qualified elector when he is not entitled to be registered, or under a false name, or as a qualified elector in any other election district than that in which he resides, shall, on conviction, be fined not exceeding \$100 or imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding one year, or both. The same penalty shall apply to anyone who is disqualified for any cause and shall register before removal of such disqualification to avoid the same, and to all who shall in any way aid in such false registration."

Under a recent decision by Attorney General L. R. Rice, in construing Section 15, Chapter 235 of the general Laws of Mississippi, 1932, it was held that that law applicable only to the issuance of warrants in payments of obligations contracted by the Board of Supervisors and does not prohibit the issuance of warrants by county officials in payment of court expenses, salaries of teachers in public schools and in payment of public officers. Heretofore, the school teachers have been unable to obtain warrants until the money was in the treasury and have been obliged to go without any form of payment for their services. Under the ruling they may receive their warrants each month and even if there are no funds for the payment of salaries the same may be used in obtaining credit and for other purposes. However this does change the law that no warrants may be issued in paying contracts made by the Board of Supervisors until the money is available.

The open season for woodcock, squirrels and deer in Mississippi closed December 31, 1932.

It is reported that the people throughout the state, at tax leagues and mass meetings, are co-operating with their respective Boards of Supervisors in the matter of retrenchment and reform. The taxpayers seem determined that all unnecessary and extravagant appropriations for all purposes, state, county and municipal, shall be checked.

The merchants took one from a package and laid it on the counter. The customer then carefully removed an egg from his pocket, laid it on the counter, picked up the cigarette and walked away.

The days of courtship mark the time when a man is what he isn't.

Many a dull man gets by fine if he has enough sense to keep still.

The top rung of the ladder is the hardest on which to stick.

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